

## Floods continue to sweep through Calif

ANGELES, Feb. 22 (R) — Helicopters carried out rescue operations, national guardsmen flew in to maintain order and 1,500 people were evacuated from their homes as floods continued to sweep through southern California today. Some areas around San Diego were under two metres of water after ten days of storms have killed 27 people and caused damage estimated at \$320 million. There was some relief when a big storm veered north from the area, ending fear that a giant reservoir would burst. Thousands of people who fled their homes in the Misvalley area of San Diego yesterday were told today that the reservoir had passed and that they could return. Officials said the 13 kilometre long reservoir could still overflow, but that the San Diego River was expected to be able to handle spills unless there was another big storm.

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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## Regional Briefs

UT, Feb. 22 (R)—The London-based Arab-language daily Al Hawadess said today the chief of Iraqi intelligence and several people were executed in an extensive report said Col. Khalil Ibrahim Al Azzawi had been promoted to an administrative post in a small town near Jarbala in Iraq. The weekly magazine said several people were executed in the purge, but it did not name them. President Sad-Husseini took over the Iraqi leadership on July 16 last year. President Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr resigned because of health. The new president immediately began weeding out officials suspected of lacking total loyalty to him. On July 28 he announced the discovery of a conspiracy against the republic and as a result 21 people were later executed by firing.

RO, Feb. 22 (AP)—Three mudbrick houses collapsed today, killing eight people and injuring four others in one of Cairo's slums. The dead, who included a month-old baby, were buried under mounds of rubble—all that remained of the brick-like constructions. Six families lived in the mudbrick and buildings which were made up of two or three rooms each. Hours said one of the families had built an extra room on the roof of one home. The mud addition with no extra support collapsed with time until it collapsed on two houses below. Police said six other houses around the three that collapsed were being tested, leaving 16 families in need of temporary housing. A study in 1978 estimated that 12,000 housing units (apartments) were lost every year because of building.

HAGUE, Feb. 22 (R)—The next round of U.S.-Egyptian talks on Palestinian autonomy will take place in the next week, a Dutch foreign ministry spokesman said today. They will be held on the initiative of the Americans next Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, he said. Earlier today the Dutch evening paper NRC Handelsblad reported that the stalled until now—would be attended by Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg, Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil and Carter's special envoy, Sol Linowitz.

AVIV, Feb. 22 (AP)—Police have arrested 23 Israeli women about 100 United Nations soldiers contracted venerable disfigurement on holidays in Tel Aviv, Israeli press reports said today. During the press accounts, the epidemic broke out in a Dutch lion of U.N. peacekeeping forces in Lebanon after the soldiers returned from vacations in Israel. Dutch military police reportedly cooperated with Israeli authorities in determining the women who may have been responsible for transmitting the disease. Most of those detained were prostitutes, while others were women who frequent bars popular with visiting soldiers, the press said. A police source told one newspaper that venerable disease is widespread among other battalions in the multi-national force, but they have not complained to Israeli police.

S, Feb. 22 (AP)—Saudi Arabia is exploring the possibility of using a French helicopter arms system to modernize its navy, according to sources here. The Saudis are reported to be looking at Dauphin 365 helicopter, built Aerospatiale, with AS-15 air to surface missiles. The missiles are automatically guided to the target, and are said to be as effective as 155 shells. The sources said the talks currently were only at a primary stage.

RAN, Feb. 22 (R)—Iran asked Italy for emergency supplies for some of its helicopters to expand rescue operations during major floods last week, but got no reply. President Hassan Bani-Sadr said today. The urgent request was made yesterday spread throughout the southwestern province of Chaharmahal, claiming more than 250 lives and destroying three-quarters of the region's villages, the president told a mass prayer at Tehran University. Informal sources close to the president said Italy had indicated unofficially that spare parts for Iran were the subject of a United States and NATO ban. 49 American hostages were still being held at the occupied embassy in Tehran. The ban on spare parts sales, which officials insist began before the embassy was occupied by Iranian students last November, has severely affected Iran's fleet of Italian and French-made helicopters. Relief officials said shortage of operational helicopters severely hampered rescue operations in Khuzestan. One helicopter crashed while airlifting agency supplies last week, killing five people.

AIT, Feb. 22 (R)—The Palestinian commando group Fatah said today it expected battles on two fronts in the Gulf and called on Palestinians in Kuwait to volunteer to Mr. Salim Zaoun, Fatah representative in the Gulf, told a conference he expected an attack in South Lebanon by Israeli and rightist Lebanese forces and also battles in Beirut if it withdrew its peace-keeping troops from the capital. Syria stationed troops in Lebanon since 1976 when the Lebanese civil war was at its height. Mr. Zaoun said: "The Fatah office in Kuwait has decided to invite Palestinians living in Kuwait to fight side their brothers." About 250,000 Palestinians live in Kuwait. Mr. Zaoun said other Fatah offices in the Gulf would start recruiting volunteers and called for all Arabs in Kuwait to give money to support the Palestinian cause.

AA, Feb. 22 (R)—A North Yemeni delegation returned here today after three days of military talks with the Yemeni authorities. The talks, part of efforts to achieve a truce between the two countries, were aimed at bringing about a cessation of hostilities between the two countries, according to an official statement here. Assistant Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Ali Mansour Al-Sanaa Television on return that the results of the talks were "satisfactory." He did not give further details but said he was bringing a message from President Abdul Fatah Ismail of South Yemen to President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

IOBI, Feb. 22 (R)—Ethiopia's military rulers today announced that two members had been purged from their ranks. Several government officials would face trial with them for fighting with rebel groups or abusing their office. Addis Ababa broadcast a statement from the ruling Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), or Dergue, which said Lt. Col. Assef Dersessa, PMAC assistant head of social affairs, and Col. Merasha, PMAC member and commander of the fourth army commandos were among those who would shortly be tried before a military tribunal to face "open and revolutionary." Other names included a senior military commissar and two of the foreign and agriculture ministries. The rebels were not specified but diplomatic sources here said some were arrested were from the northern province of Tigray, and others were from southern Ethiopia whose region is being targeted by rebels associated with Somali secessionists in the Ogaden Desert.

## Israel changes name, value of its currency

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (R)—Israel changed the name and value of its currency today in a drive to defeat tax evaders believed to be hoarding huge sums of "black money" in defiance of the treasury.

Finance Minister Yigael Hurwitz announced that from now on the standard unit of Israeli currency will be called the Shekel, worth 10 of the old unit, which was known variously as the pound or the lira.

There will be no change in the external value of the currency which at today's exchange rate was 38.8 Israeli pounds to the dollar.

The announcement came at a press conference following a special cabinet meeting. Prior to Mr. Hurwitz's statement, Israelis had braced themselves for crushing new measures to revive a national economy now suffering from inflation in excess of 150 per cent.

Coupled with the monetary changes were stringent new measures to prevent tax evasion.

Anyone changing more than 150,000 pounds (\$3,850) in old money to the new currency will have to explain where it comes from, Mr. Hurwitz said.

In addition those earning more than 600,000 old pounds a year or owning a dwelling with more than 175 square metres of floor area will have to file a special declaration of property and assets.

The changes were aimed at businessmen who under-declare their income and keep sums in cash hidden away from the taxman.

## Israel denies it tested nuclear bomb last Sept.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 22 (R) — Defence Minister Ezer Weizman today denied that Israel tested a nuclear bomb in the South Atlantic last September. He was reacting to an American CBS television report which quoted informed sources as saying the Israeli test was the unexplained explosion off the South African coast detected by a U.S. reconnaissance satellite last September.

Referring to the allegations of an Israeli test, Mr. Weizman told journalists: "The report talks about things which never were." The CBS report also mentioned the text of a book on Israel's nuclear development by Israeli journalist Eli Teicher and Ami Doron.

Mr. Teicher told the Israeli newspaper Maariv this morning the book had been submitted to the military censor 10 days ago. The two authors refused to confirm that the CBS report corresponded to what they had written. "We cannot speak about the book until the censor clears it," Mr. Teicher said.

According to the book, CBS said, Israel had an arsenal of some "two dozen" nuclear bombs, making Israel just behind China as a nuclear power.

The report said Israel and South Africa had been cooperating in nuclear matters since the mid-1950s, and South Africa supplied Israel with uranium in exchange for Israeli nuclear technology.

CBS said that according to the book, South Africa offered to let Israel test a nuclear device in or near South Africa in 1966, about the time Israel completed its first atomic bomb, but then Prime Minister Levi Eshkol demurred. Last October the U.S. state department said traces of an apparent atomic explosion had been detected in the South Atlantic region on Sept. 22, but it had no information on who might have exploded a nuclear weapon.

South Africa denied any knowledge of a nuclear test and suggested it could have been an accident aboard a Soviet nuclear-powered submarine. This was discounted by U.S. defence department officials, who said no Soviet submarines were known to have been in the area at the time.

The report said the book suggested the United States was aware that Israel had nuclear weapons, but knew little more than that and that at no time had Israel sought U.S. cooperation in developing a nuclear arsenal.

In Cape Town, South Africa's foreign ministry declined to com-



Afghan rebels resting in a hideout on a mountain overlooking Chigha Seral, the capital of the eastern province of Kunar. (AP wirephoto)

## U.N. panel on Iran grievances gets go-ahead to leave Geneva

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 22 (Agencies)—The United Nations commission set up to examine Iran's complaints against the deposed Shah will leave Geneva tomorrow morning for Tehran, its co-chairman said today.

After an hour-long meeting

with Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. Co-chairman Mohammad Bedjaoui of Algeria told reporters he was returning to Geneva later today, to join the four other members of the panel. The other co-chairman is Mr. Andres Aguilar Mawdsley of Venezuela. Lawyers from France, Syria and Sri Lanka are the other members of the commission.

Mr. Bedjaoui returned to New York yesterday from Geneva where other members of the commission had gathered.

Mr. Bedjaoui's statement today was the first world that the commission actually would leave tomorrow. Its inquiry into Iranian allegations against the deposed Shah and grievances by the United States arising out of the seizure of American hostages last November is expected to last up to two weeks and will be followed by a full report to Dr. Waldheim.

In Tehran, a foreign ministry spokesman said that a former Panamanian justice minister who is handling Iran's case for the extradition of the deposed Shah was due in Iran tonight and would hold a press conference tomorrow.

## Red Cross carries out exchange of Palestinian, Israeli prisoners

NICOSIA, Feb. 22 (AP) — A woman in Palestinian hands for six years as an Israeli spy was swapped today for two Palestinian commandos serving life sentences in Israeli jails.

The exchange was carried out over great secrecy and massive security precautions at Cyprus' Larnaca airport.

The Cyprus government confirmed the swap after it was completed, stating it was carried out at the request and under the supervision of the International Red Cross.

Both the Red Cross and the Cypriot authorities refused to identify the three persons involved. But informed sources on Cyprus and in Beirut said the woman was Israeli who posed as an Arab while working in Beirut as a psychologist. She was arrested there in 1974.

The sources added one of the exchanged commandos is William Nassar, a Christian Palestinian, arrested in occupied Jerusalem in 1968. Mr. Nassar was one of the first operatives of the Palestinian commando group Fatah to be arrested.

His release had been repeatedly demanded by Palestinian airline hijackers during the last decade. The sources identified the second commando only by his code name of Abu Ali, saying he was arrested in the Israeli occupied Gaza Strip in 1971.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's official representative in Cyprus, Mr. Zakariya Abdul Rahim, said he had not been informed of the pris-

oner swap. The Israeli embassy here also said they could not give any information.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli government acknowledged the exchange had taken place but it would not release details of the swap or say whether the woman was an Israeli.

A brief announcement said the woman had been held by commandos in Lebanon for some time and was accused of working for Israeli intelligence. The Palestinians, who were not identified,

had "almost completed" their prison terms, the announcement said.

Informed sources in Nicosia said the woman had arrived in Cyprus from Beirut the previous night with International Red Cross escorts who stayed with her to an undisclosed location overnight.

The two Palestinians left Larnaca shortly after their arrival aboard a scheduled flight for Beirut, also escorted by Red Cross officials, the sources said.

The former minister is Mr. Juan Materno Vazquez, a lawyer, who said in Panama City today that his country was not doing enough to apprehend the deposed Shah.

There was no immediate apparent link between the arrival of the commission and the Panamanian lawyer's visit.

Meanwhile, Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr warned of harsh treatment for rioters today as street fighting continued between rival groups in at least three Iranian cities.

The president, addressing a crowd of over 100,000 at mass prayers in Tehran, said: "Those who allow themselves to attack other groups under the pretext of supporting the Islamic revolution will be dealt with like counter-revolutionaries."

His warning came as gangs of Muslim fundamentalists wielding knives, clubs and stones, attacked supporters of the radical Islamic Mujahedin guerrilla movement in Qa'm Shahr, Shiraz and Gorgan for the second day running.

Revolutionary guards in Qa'm Shahr, close to the Caspian Sea, told Reuters by telephone that about 500 people had been injured in two days of clashes.

## Martial law clamped on Kabul Soviet troops move in force near Afghan-Pakistan border

NEW DELHI, Feb. 22 (Agencies) — Martial law was clamped on Kabul today after rioting in which three people were killed, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said, quoting reports reaching here from the Afghan capital.

The news agency quoted an unidentified western correspondent as saying the three were killed in a demonstration outside Kabul town hall.

PTI said rioting broke out after a strike in the city's markets yesterday to protest against Soviet military presence in the country.

The news agency said hundreds of Afghans, waving flags, staged rallies outside the town hall and in the Sherpur area of the city. It said there was heavy movement of Soviet troops and armour in the Afghan capital.

In Moscow, Tass News Agency said the Afghan government imposed martial law in Kabul today after outbreaks of rioting

and arson this morning.

Tass, quoting an interior ministry statement, said foreign agents and mercenaries had launched "instigatory and disruptive actions". When the authorities moved to control the situation, the rioters turned to looting and arson, Tass said.

The agency said "agents and British, American, Pakistani and Chinese henchmen" were responsible for the disturbances. It gave no indication of any casualties.

The anti-government demonstrations were the first in Kabul since the new government headed by Babrak Karmal seized power on Dec. 27 in a Soviet-backed coup.

Meanwhile, informed sources in Peshawar today reported that Soviet troops are moving in force close to the border with Pakistan in what could be a bid to seal it off to Afghan insurgents.

In Washington, U.S. officials said the Soviet military machine had become bogged down in Afghanistan and the Kremlin might have to send in thousands more troops to consolidate its control once the winter snows have melted.

"Nothing has gone right" since the Soviet incursion and the Moscow-backed coup, the officials said.

One official predicted that if Moscow decided to take over the task of fighting nationalist rebels something it had not done so far—it would need between 300,000 and 400,000 troops in the country.

The United States committed 500,000 troops to Vietnam at the height of its involvement there.

But other officials said Moscow would need to bring in between 25,000 and 50,000 men into the country to reinforce the estimated 70,000 already there, if it wanted to continue towards its original goal of bolstering a Kabul administration capable of defeating the anti-communist insurgents.

Islamic guerrillas and independent sources in contact with Afghan refugees said Soviet troops were moved out of the garrison town of Jalalabad, 80 kilometres from the Khyber Pass and into Pakia border province in the past few days.

The reports of increased Soviet troops movements came as the Kremlin's defence minister, Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, accused China and the United States of pouring weapons into Pakistan and turning it into a military base. He was quoted in the official Pravda daily newspaper as saying that Peking and Washington were escalating what he said was their undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev today demanded a complete halt to outside interference in Afghanistan as the price of a withdrawal of Soviet forces there. "Let the United States together with the neighbours of Afghanistan guarantee this, and then the need for Soviet military assistance will cease to exist," he told an election meeting in the Kremlin.

He blamed Washington for inciting and directing the anti-government rebellion and making a Soviet withdrawal impossible.

The 73-year-old Soviet leader said there had been no "Russian interference in Afghanistan. He said Soviet troops had finally been sent there after appeals from three successive Afghan governments for aid in repelling an invasion by "counter-revolutionaries."

"Washington knows very well about the intervention against Afghanistan from Pakistani territory," Mr. Brezhnev said.

In Washington, U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski said that any attempted Soviet takeover in the Gulf would be countered with military force there and possibly elsewhere in the region. He said leading U.S. officials agreed that the Soviet move into Afghanistan had posed a strategic dilemma for Washing-

## U.S. agrees to sell F-15s to Egypt

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (R) — The United States has agreed in principle to sell Egypt its best fighter plane, the F-15, but has made clear it may take four years to provide them, administration officials said today. The delay reflects White House belief that the sale would face stiff opposition in Congress as well as in Israel. The officials also said it would take time to produce the planes since there was already a backlog of orders from the U.S. Air Force, as well as Israel, Saudi Arabia and Japan. Egypt already is set to receive the single engine F-16 fighter, but has been pressing the United States for the twin-engine F-15, which is faster, flies farther and has more advanced electronics. Administration officials said the United States had agreed to the sale reluctantly and emphasised that it would depend on approval by Congress.

The U.S.-inspired move to boycott the Moscow Olympics in protest against Soviet involvement in Afghanistan ran into a stumbling block when France vetoed efforts by the nine-nation European Community to back the Americans, according to informed sources.

The United States formally announced its Olympic boycott yesterday and called for similar action by other countries. Britain has said it will back President Carter in the Moscow ban.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will today head back to Washington after a lightning two-day tour of France, West Germany, Britain and Italy.

He said there were differences of opinion on how to take action over the Soviet incursion, although all four countries agreed with the U.S. on the nature of the threat and the general long-range objectives for dealing with it.

Mr. Vance said he endorsed British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's proposal—backed by the Common Market countries—that a neutral Afghanistan under international guarantees should be set up in exchange for the withdrawal of Soviet forces. (See story on page 6)

A correspondent for the Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun, reporting today from Kabul, said the rebels have been distributing handbills warning of a March 10 attack on the capital to be followed by a "Tet-style offensive on March 21," the start of spring celebrated by Afghanistan's Muslims.

The massive North Vietnamese Tet lunar new year's offensive of March 1968 was considered the turning point against American and South Vietnamese forces in the Vietnam War.

## Afghan diplomat at U.N. defects

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 22 (R) — An Afghan diplomat sent to represent his Soviet-backed government at a U.N. meeting today announced his defection instead.

Mr. Abdul Rahim Ghafourzi, 33, said he left Kabul last Sunday to represent Afghanistan at a U.N. meeting on the situation in his country. Instead, he told reporters: "I expressed the strong protest an indignation of the Afghan people at the situation in Afghanistan which resulted in its occupation by a superpower."

Mr. Ghafourzi, who served on his country's permanent U.N. delegation from 1973 to 1978, added: "When I finished, I said that in protest at such an invasion of my country by a superpower, I declared my resignation."

He said he also told the stunned gathering that the Afghan people will be able to "free their country of the domination of a superpower."

Mr. Ghafourzi had been serving in the Afghan foreign ministry's international relations department. He is the second Afghan diplomat to defect in recent weeks. Mr. Abdul Hakim Tabibi, the deputy permanent U.N. representative, quit last month.

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## Proposed new Arab League charter ready for presentation to Amman summit

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JT) — A new draft Arab League charter has been formulated for presentation

to the Arab summit conference due to be held here in November.

former Arab League assistant secretary general Dr. Mohammad Al Farra said here today.

Dr. Al Farra, who participated in the work of the Arab committee which drew up the new draft charter, said that the charter spells out

justice: the necessity of directing Arab wealth and resources towards development, liberation

and economic integration in the Arab World; safeguards for the

Arab individual's rights and intellectual and physical security; and means of enabling him to exercise his basic freedoms, as these are the essential element in achieving advancement.

The charter, Dr. Al Farra added encourages all steps of unity among member states and calls on them to abstain from any policy

that contradicts the Arab league's goals. It also calls for setting up an Arab court of justice, he said. Dr. Al Farra said the Arab League

secretary-general will soon make extensive and intensified contacts at the highest levels to support the idea of the draft charter, emphasise its significance and persuade member countries of the need to implement it because the development of political blocs in the world underscores the necessity of Arab unity.

The formulation of the charter comes in implementation of resolutions of the seventh Arab summit conference, held in Rabat in 1974. Those who participated in writing the new Arab League charter include a number of distinguished Arab judges, lawyers, writers, politicians and other experts.

## Arab-American senatorial candidate tours Mideast to promote understanding, cooperation

Jordan, visiting the state, as well as a North Dakota delegation to the Arab World.

North Dakota's commercial interest in the Arab World stems from the fact that its main product is one very much needed in this region — wheat. Every year either North Dakota or Nebraska is the U.S.'s number one wheat producer.

While in Amman, Mr. Saba met Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem and Minister of Supply Jawad Anani to try and interest them in striking wheat-buying deals with North Dakota, together with purchases of other cereals such as barley, oats, sunflower seeds and corn.

He also discussed with them the possibility of a transfer of agricultural technology between Jordan and his home state which, he explained, is arid, like Jordan. The state is, however, advanced in weather modification and other techniques, such as the use of a special starch that can improve the water absorption of the soil 200 times.

"The people of North Dakota see me as a link between them and the Arab World," he commented. "I have set up cultural and commercial exchanges and political dialogues between them and countries of the developing world. I hope that the transfer of technology can help firm these bonds."

North Dakota's relations with the Arab World go back much further than one would expect. North Dakota was the last state to offer free homestead land in the U.S., doing so until 1915. Syrians and Lebanese were among the last wave of immigrants, and as such were limited in their choice of free land. In the late 19th century, a number of them settled in North Dakota, braving one of the harshest climates in the U.S.

Among them, Mr. Saba said, was a group of Lebanese Muslims, who in the 1880s erected the U.S.'s first mosque in the small town of Ross. At first nothing more than a basement, by the early 1900s the mosque boasted a claspboard building with a minaret that looked more like a church steeple. The structure has since been torn down, but the basement and graveyard still remain.

Today, some 3,000 Americans of Arab descent live in North Dakota. Mr. Saba himself is the grandson of a Lebanese immigrant who settled near Bismarck, the state's capital, in the late nineteenth century. His family is part of the 'Attiyah tribe (the name was truncated by U.S. immigration officials) which, he

said, has been traced back to fourth century Yemen. He maintains active membership in the 'Attiyah association, which his father helped to found to preserve ties among the 1,200 or so Americans who belong to the tribe.

He has extended his cultural interest in the Arab World to a political one. He is a former executive director of the National Association for Arab Americans, popularly known as the "Arab lobby," and is now on its board of directors.

Under his leadership the lobby gained its first victories over the Zionist lobby in 1976 and 1977. His efforts staved off the most severe anti-Arab boycott restrictions that were introduced by the Zionist lobby to the U.S. Congress, caused the Carter administration to reverse its decision regarding the already-approved concussion bomb sale to Israel and forced a public apology from a high American government official after he had called Arab-American consumer advocate Ralph Nader a "dirty Arab."

In 1978 Mr. Saba gained national attention when he reported that a senior state aide to the Senate foreign relations committee had passed highly classified defense information to the Israelis. The American official was suspended and has since set up the Jewish Centre for Strategic Studies. The incident is currently

under investigation by the FBI. It has been said that the report saved the F-15 sale to Saudi Arabia, then up for vote in Congress.

Mr. Saba, who has completed graduate studies and post-graduate work in cross-cultural communications and international relations, has worked on behalf of both private and public interests in North Dakota, representing teachers, unions, energy, agriculture, youth groups and native Americans (Indians). He currently holds a post as manager of public affairs for Mobil Middle East Development Corporation.

Initially, he said, he will run for the Senate on an unabashedly international platform, a stance rarely taken by first-time senatorial candidates, who usually try to appeal to home interests. As he noted, however, as a senator one

represents not only one's state but the nation as well, and he felt that the interests of both his state and the nation lie in improving relations with the Arab World.

On state issues, he claims to be a populist—a strong tradition in North Dakota politics—and he eschews partisanship with Democratic party, despite proposed candidacy on the party's ticket.

The post he is running for opened up when longtime Republican Senator Milton Yai retired. Since the politically powerful Mr. Young has openly he will not support the Republican candidate for senator, Mr. Saba has high hopes that, in November, Arab-Americans in the Arab World will once find a sympathetic voice in U.S. Senate.



"The people of North Dakota see me as a link between them and the Arab World."

By Norah Barger  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 22 — When Mr. James Abourezk of South Dakota announced his retirement from the U.S. Congress last year, the Senate lost its sole Arab-American member. But if Mr. Michael Saba has his way, this vacancy won't exist for long. Mr. Saba intends to be elected senator from neighbouring North Dakota in this November's general elections.

Long an activist for Arab-American rights and a promoter of friendship between North Dakota and Arab countries, Mr. Saba has just concluded a short week tour of the Middle East, taking in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, as well as a return visit to Jordan.

His tour, he told the Jordan Times, is "a fact-finding one in anticipation of my announcement as a candidate (running as a Democrat) for the U.S. Senate." He has not yet formally announced his candidature, due to the legal technicalities of federal campaign laws.

He has also been following up North Dakota-Arab relations, particularly in the commercial sphere, as a representative of his state.

Surprisingly, the thinly-populated and landlocked state of North Dakota has the most extensive relations with the Arab World of all the states in the union. It has signed separate friendship pacts with five Arab countries — Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt. In 1977, while the U.S. government and at least eight American states were passing anti-Arab boycott legislation, the North Dakota state legislature passed a resolution blocking future introduction of anti-Arab boycott legislation. The resolution read in part: "every effort (should) be made not only to improve the developing friendship between the Arab countries and North Dakota, but also to avoid and discourage situations which might strain this friendship."

Mr. Saba calls the resolution the first piece of "pro-Arab legislation" in the U.S. He played an instrumental role in lobbying to get it passed as well as in blocking anti-boycott legislation in two other states.

The friendship pacts also are largely the result of his work. As the president of Development International Inc., he has promoted the agricultural interests of North Dakota and been responsible for three international trade delegations, including one from



"The U.S. is moving from a de facto to a de jure special relationship with Israel."

AMMAN, Feb. 22 — Accompanying Mr. Michael Saba on his tour of the Middle East is Mr. Jean Abinader, executive director of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA), of which Mr. Saba is a former executive director and current board member. The group was formed in 1972 by a group of American professionals and businessmen, mostly of Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian origin, as a political action group that would promote U.S. political and economic interests in the Arab World.

The aims of the NAAA represent a departure from traditional Arab-American groups, which as Mr. Abinader put it, tend to promote "kibbeh-katiches." The group, he said, is the only "truly national" political action group of Arab-Americans in the U.S. While it identifies with the Arab World, he explained, it does not have parochial interests in inter-Arab (or intra-Arab) disputes.

After an initial shaky start and a splintering of the group during the Lebanese civil war, the NAAA now has over 2,000 members and reaches some 20,000 others through 16 affiliated chapters. The current president is Mrs. Joanne McKenna, a housewife (as she describes herself) of Lebanese origin who has been active in Arab-American affairs for over 15 years.

The organisation has six employees, one of whom is a public registered lobbyist at the U.S. Congress.

Last year, for the first time, Mr. Abinader said, the NAAA began "initiating action, rather than simply reacting" to situations. They have begun preparing position papers, legislative amendments and resolutions which they circulate to key political figures and the press.

In the past they have lobbied for military and foreign aid to the Arab World, but now they have expanded their range of interest to include improved commercial ties between the Arab World and the U.S., as well as speaking out against anti-Arab prejudice.

To date, Mr. Abinader said, their most successful public campaign has been the recent one against the negative stereotyping of Arabs in the recent Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Abaca ("Arab scam") operation. A telegram was sent to President Carter, that began: "Reported Congressional acceptance of bribes by FBI agents posing as Arab representatives is deplorable."

The NAAA objection to Abaca became the lead story on national television broadcast, as well as on two local stations — Washington, D.C. and one in New York City. In addition, Mr. Abinader appeared on a dozen radio talks shows to explain the organisation's point of view.

His group is now conducting studies of textbooks used in the Washington D.C. area schools for instances of Arab stereotyping and are examining editorials, columns and opinion pieces that appeared in major American newspapers between 1973 and 1979 for the same thing.

They have also become facilitators for the establishment of an American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, which is now soliciting for members of its national board.

A major issue the group is now working on is tax legislation pending before Congress which would reduce the amount of income that is tax deductible for Americans working abroad. The legislation, they claim, would reduce the amount of U.S. business in the Arab World and elsewhere, by pricing Americans out of the market. They want a complete overhaul of tax laws for expatriates.

They are also lobbying against the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Enforcement, they say, is largely left up to governmental legal departments dominated by Zionist lawyers, and is selective as well as against the spirit of the law. It also costs firms millions of dollars in paperwork alone, as does the Export Administration Act (EAA), commonly known as the anti-Arab boycott law.

The EAA is the only piece of U.S. legislation that specifies names Israel (in the context that any firm boycotting Israel loses certain tax exemptions). "The U.S. is moving from a de facto to a de jure special relationship with Israel," Mr. Saba said. The NAAA plans a strong lobbying effort against EAA when it comes up for renewal next year.

It will also continue to fight against what it sees as U.S.-backed Israeli boycotts, such as the clause in the Camp David Accords stipulates that firms doing business with countries hostile to Israel are banned from bidding on the project to build air bases in the Naqab (Negev) Desert.

Other items on the NAAA agenda are: acting against what it sees as the selective move to extradite from the U.S. Mr. Ziyad Al 'Eian, whom the Israelis claim set off a bomb in Tiberias; agitating for the reopening of the case of the disappearance of 200 pounds uranium now assumed to be in Israel; publicising an incident which a senior congressional staff aide passed classified defence information to the Israelis and lobbying against the successful Israeli bid to get its choice of Alaskan heavy crude oil — which, law, can only be sold in America.

### A fresh start

WE WOULD anticipate that a great deal of heated debate will attend the planned adoption of a new Arab League charter at the Arab summit conference to be held in Amman later this year.

Of course it is essential that the charter should contain the basic guidelines governing the achievement, and maintenance, of Arab unity. It should also, in the pattern of other such declarations and manifestos, include some nice thoughts on the basic rights and freedoms of the citizens of the Arab World and on the ideals of social and economic justice.

Beyond the philosophical basics, however, it strikes us that the present circumstances of the Arab World also merit some special consideration in the drafting of a new charter.

Since the Arab League Pact was first drawn up in 1945, Arab unity has remained an elusive goal. We are told that the new charter will recommend ways of enhancing the realisation of this goal.

No one should underestimate the external challenges which contrive to thwart this search for unity. But such challenges — from the expansionist thrust of Zionism to the threat of Big Power intervention in our region — should only enhance and strengthen our resolve.

A look at the existing charter also reveals existing measures (Article 5) specifying that "any resort to force in order to resolve disputes arising between two or more member states of the League is prohibited." That would seem to be specific enough. But it hasn't been 100 per cent successful, has it?

To be sure, the same article of the original charter establishes Arab League mechanisms through which such disputes are supposed to be resolved through common Arab arbitration and mediation, and such mechanisms have been used on repeated occasions in the past. But is this the best we should hope for?

If the Arab states are agreed on the seriousness of the challenges confronting them as they pursue the path of unity and the liberation of Palestine, there should be no disagreement among them important enough to block those pursuits.

It is time to move from an era of Arab consultation and cooperation to an era of true conciliation and unification.

### ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The talks between His Majesty King Hussein and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu entered their second day on Thursday, with the international media taking an obvious interest.

King Hussein's speech during the banquet at the end of the first day of talks has received a lot of coverage from the world media. This was evident with regard to His Majesty's emphasis on the fact that there will be no peace as long as Arab land is still occupied and Arab Jerusalem remains in captivity.

Undoubtedly, this emphasis has renewed the conviction in the international forum of the firm unified Arab stand and its consistency. It also gave a strong impression that any international effort to establish true peace in the region should start with understanding this stand and interacting with it.

The King's speech left no room for those who were repeating the nonsense about the expansion of the circle of Camp David parties, and also left no doubt that the world has started to feel, more than at any previous time before, the isolation of the Camp David deal—and knows that events have transcended it.

The world's realisation of these facts is worthy of being followed up with a positive act that would save the region from the dangers threatening it due to Israeli intransigence and the continued occupation of Arab land and Jerusalem. It also goes without saying that the Romanian president has got acquainted with this theme.

AL DUSTOUR: The U.N. Security Council yesterday began its debate on Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territories, upon a request from Jordan and the chairman of the Islamic conference, who is also the Moroccan representative to the U.N.

The debate constitutes an approach to diverting the international community's attention from Afghanistan and the conflict between the eastern and western blocs, and turning it back towards the Middle East and the Gulf.

It should be made clear that the settlement policy cannot be separated from the occupation policy and Palestinian rights. That is why we believe that the Security Council's meeting constitutes an introduction to a discussion of the Arab cause as a whole. It is also a way to affirm to the world community—and the superpowers in particular—that the injustice with which the Palestinian people in particular and the Arab nation in general are treated—as His Majesty King Hussein said in Bucharest—does not constitute the required basis for a just peace in the region.

Since halting Jewish settlement will not end the Zionist occupation of Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, therefore a resolution issued by the Security Council which does not take up the Palestinians' legitimate rights in their land will fall short of achieving the desired goal.

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### Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA) — A symposium was held at the Social Security Corporation recently to discuss the benefits and services the Social Security law provides for injured labourers and the basis of compensation for on-the-job accidents, old age pensions and disability compensation for employees covered by the law. Social Security officers participating in the symposium explained that the law grants the injured worker all necessary medical care including treatment, hospital expenses, transportation from the scene of the accident to the place of treatment and rehabilitation services. This also includes the payment of his monthly salary during the time he is disabled, and funeral expenses. As for old age pensions, the symposium made it clear that the law makes it possible for the worker to get a pension after meeting certain requirements. Participants in the symposium included officials of the Social Security Corporation and representatives of banks and other institutions covered by the Social Security law.

MADABA, Feb. 22 (JNA) — The Directorate of Agriculture here has completed the afforestation of 703 dunams in the district during the last two months. The Director of Agriculture, Mr. Shawqi Karadsh, said the directorate distributed around 60,500 plants for this purpose.

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA) — The Director General of the Civil Defence Directorate, Maj. Gen. Khalid Tarawneh, chairs a meeting tomorrow for factory owners in Zarqa and the suburbs to discuss means of protection and general safety in their factories. He will also discuss the possibility of cooperation between the Civil Defence Directorate and the owners to help them get advice on how to avoid the danger of sudden fires.

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA) — The board of directors of the Postal Saving Fund has authorised the fund's Director General, Mr. Abdullah Hawamdeh, to draw up the final instructions pertaining to granting loans to depositors for purposes of education. The board of directors also decided to have a share in a number of development projects in the Kingdom. Meanwhile, the fund's deposits last January reached JD 300,000 and the number of accounts 65,000.

IRBID, Feb. 22 (JNA) — Loans distributed by the Agricultural Bank in Irbid for the purpose of afforestation and other projects reached JD 100,000 and the number of accounts 15,000.

ZARQA, Feb. 22 (JNA) — A training course will be held at the Youth Care Centre here tomorrow for prospective members of the Friends of the Police. The two-week course will be attended by 36 members of the centre, who will receive theoretical and practical lessons about the mission of the police, their relations with the public, safeguarding the scene of a crime, combating crime and organising traffic in the city.

AMMAN, Feb. 22 (JNA) — The Jordanian Pharmacists' Association will hold a symposium on Monday to discuss the profession of pharmacy. The three-day seminar will discuss several issues including the pharmaceutical industry, drug control and trade and the dispensing of drugs by pharmacies, legislation and pharmaceutical distribution.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### Film

The French Cultural Centre presents film by Rene Allio entitled: "Moi, Pierre Riviere" (1976) at 7:30 p.m.

#### Play Reading

A local dramatic reading group is presenting Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the British Council at 8:00 p.m. Free admission.

#### Swedish Film

Tonight's film for the Swedish film festival is Danielson's "The Apple War." The film begins at 8:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Industry building on Jabal Amman.

#### Indian Film

The Embassy of India presents an Indian film festival at the American Centre at 6:30 p.m. This evening's film is "Ankur," and in colour with Arabic subtitles. Admission is free.

هكذا على الكفيل

# Damas-Scène

ed for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

Week of Feb. 23 - 29

## EXHIBITIONS

Y, Feb. 25: A photographic exhibition illustrating 59 Soviet rule in Georgia will open in the Soviet Cultural

SDAY, Feb. 27: A display of musical instruments, toys, and glassware manufactured in the German Democratic Republic will open in the GDR Cultural Centre.

UING: Works by Damascene artist Mamdouh Kashelan are on display in Ebla Gallery, approximately one mile from the Italian Hospital. Hours: 5-8 p.m. daily except

## LECTURES

DAY, Feb. 23: "Shakespeare: A Modern Approach" 6:30 p.m. lecture by Dr. Suheil Badi Bushri in the British Centre. A professor of English literature at the American University of Beirut, Dr. Bushri is president of the Association of Teachers of the Arab World.

AY, Feb. 26: Mr. Raymond Collet will give a 7 p.m. lecture in the French Cultural Centre in which he will employ dual projections of illustrations for two topics: "L'Eau" and "sions de France" (in French).

adings from Maxi Wander's book *Good Morning, My* will be presented at 7 p.m. by teachers of the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre. A discussion will follow about the issues of women's liberation which are in the book (in German).

SDAY, Feb. 27: The Leipzig Spring Fair will be topic of a lecture by Mr. Helmut Mones, commercial counsellor at the German Democratic Republic, at 7 p.m. in the Cultural Centre. A documentary film on the fair will follow (in German).

JAY, Feb. 28: The second in a series of lectures entitled "Archaeological Activities in Syria" will be given by Dr. Kassem at 7:30 p.m. in the Damascus Community School. The lecturer is deputy director of excavations in Syria. His talk will be illustrated by colour slides (in English). The lecture will deal with sites.

## VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

AY, Feb. 26: "Davignac" is the topic of the last in a series of programmes on the traditions of the French countryside, at 6 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre.

SDAY, Feb. 27: A sport programme, "Le XV de la France" is slated for 6 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre (in French).



"The Family" by Mamdouh Kashelan

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"Waiting" entitles this oil painting by Mamdouh Kashelan on view in Ebla Art Gallery.

## THEATRE

CONTINUING: "Cheers, My Country," the political satire starring Duraid Lahham, is making a return engagement nightly at 8:30 p.m. in the Federated Workers' Theatre, opposite the Meridien Hotel (in Arabic).

## FILMS

SATURDAY, Feb. 23: "Deutschstunde." Part II will be shown at 8 p.m. in the Goethe Institute. The 1971 film directed by Peter Beauvais is based on the novel by Siegfried Lenz and stars Wolfgang Buettner, Arno Assmann and Edda Seippel (Arabic sub-titles).

SATURDAY, Feb. 23, MONDAY, Feb. 25, and THURSDAY, Feb. 28: "L'ironie du sort," a 1976 film directed by Edouard Molinaro will be shown in the French Cultural Centre. The colour film stars Pierre Clementi, Marie-Helene Breillat and Claude Rich. It will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Monday and at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday (in French, with Arabic sub-titles).

SUNDAY, Feb. 24: A series of documentaries about art in the German Democratic Republic will be shown in the GDR Cultural Centre at 6:30 p.m. Titles are: "Art and the Artist in the GDR"; "Museums of Berlin"; "Folk Art in the Erzgebirge Mountains"; and "Living Folk Art". All films are in colour and are narrated in Arabic.

\*\*\* The 1976 French film "Bartleby", directed by Maurice Ronet, will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Cine-Club (in French, with Arabic sub-titles).

MONDAY, Feb. 25 and WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27: The feature film "Mimino" will be shown at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (with English and Arabic sub-titles).

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27: Continuing its series of documentaries entitled "In Other Accents", the Spanish Cultural Centre will present the Spanish TV special on Colombia at 6:30 p.m. in the centre (in Spanish).

FRIDAY, Feb. 29: "An Old-fashioned Comedy" entitles a feature film to be shown at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian).

FRIDAY, Feb. 29: "The Thirty-Nine Steps," a 1978 colour film based on the adventure story by John Buchan, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the British Cultural Centre. Tickets must be obtained from the library between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday through Thursday.

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please telephone them in Damascus to 336-658 or mail them to Pat McDonnell, P.O. Box 5601, Damascus.

## LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	295.00/297.00
U.K. sterling	672.30/676.30
West German mark	169.00/170.00
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French franc	72.10/72.50
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.50/36.70
Japanese yen (for every 100)	119.90/120.60
Dutch guilder	153.30/154.20
Belgium franc	103.90/104.50
Swedish crown	70.70/71.10

## TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be clear with variable winds. There will be a slight rise in temperature, and medium and high clouds will appear. The wind will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be hazy, with medium and high clouds. The winds will be northeasterly moderate, and seas calm.

	Overnight	Daytime
	low	high
Amman	3	13
Aqaba	11	23
Deserts	3	17
Jordan Valley	11	22

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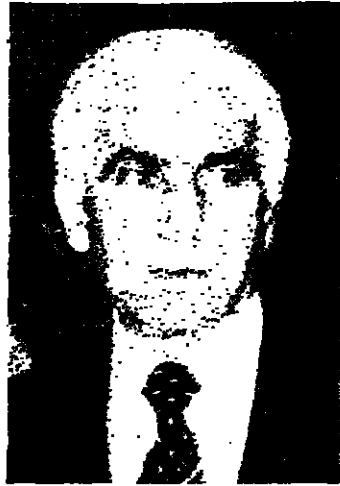
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# Chadli: ME solution requires US righting 'historic mistake'



Ben Jedd Chadli

NICOSIA, Feb. 22 (AP) -- Algerian President Ben Jedd Chadli says the Middle East problem can only be solved if the United States "corrects the historic mistake committed against the Palestinian people."

"Even if the whole of the (Israeli-occupied) Sinai peninsula is restored to Egypt and the Golan Heights to Syria, the Palestinian issue will remain as the heart of the Middle East problem. Any solutions that do not restore Palestinian rights fully are false and impermanent," the Algerian leader added in a wide ranging interview with the Paris-based Arabic language magazine *Al Moustaqbal*.

"We feel that the policy of the United States is dictated by political electioneering pressures and fails to take into account our (Arab) case," he said. "The main difference between us and the United States is the complete American support of Israel, without any attempt to pressure Israel to find a lasting and just settlement of the Middle East problem," Mr. Chadli said.

Asked whether "what was taken by force could be restored without the use of force," he replied: "The main power of the confrontation nation (Egypt) is out of the family, having chosen to ally itself with the enemy." "There are a lot of differences among the Arab states today and we are trying to overcome these in order to gain strength," he added.

Referring to the continuing differences with neighbouring Morocco over the former Spanish colony of the Western Sahara, Mr. Chadli said: "We believe in the unity of the (Arab) people and the

need for cooperation and good neighbourliness.

"We in Algeria do not export revolution, because we believe it is the right of the people to choose their own destiny."

"We harbour no hatred for our brothers in Morocco and we are ready to join in any effort to stop the bloodshed in the Western Sahara, but I believe our brothers in Morocco do not exert the same efforts."

Morocco is engaged in an armed struggle with the Polisario movement in the Western Sahara, which has been fighting for independence instead of incorporation of the Western Sahara in Morocco since the Spanish withdrawal.

"Our difference with Morocco is that there is a Sahara problem... We have no territorial demands in Sahara and our main objective is peace," Mr. Chadli said.

He reiterated that Algeria was

not involved in the recent flare-up of fighting in the Tunisian border town of Gafsa. "We believe what happened in Tunisia is an internal affair, but we are concerned about safeguarding stability in the area to avoid incidents leading to foreign intervention. Such a development would be unacceptable as we would not tolerate foreign forces near our border and would consider this a threat to our revolution and peace in the area," he added.

# Israel forbids Qawasmeh to attend Security Council

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (R)--Israeli military authorities said today they have refused permission to Mayor Fahd Qawasmeh of the Occupied West Bank town of Hebron to attend today's United Nations Security Council debate on the situation in his town.

The council is due to discuss complaints by Jordan and Morocco over recent Israeli measures in the West Bank. Last week the Israeli government announced there was no impediment to Jewish settlers moving into the town. Israelis had previously settled near, but not in, West Bank Arab towns.

Israeli security forces blocked all roads leading Hebron this morning to prevent political figures from attending a mass prayer meeting.

Military government sources said they asked West Bank mayors not to attend the prayers to be held in the Ibrahim Mosque over the Cave of Machpelah, a site holy to both Jews and Muslims, to prevent tension in the town.

The meeting was called by the organisers of the Palestinian National Congress. A mass nationalist rally had been scheduled for Tuesday in Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque, but was cancelled when the military government banned West Bank mayors from leaving their towns on that day.

Mr. Qawasmeh condemned today's Israeli actions. "I call on the world not to allow Jews to set-

tle in the centre of Hebron," he said.

Five mayors of important West Bank towns are at present in Jordan discussing financial aid for their towns with government and Palestine Liberation Organisation officials.



Mustafa and Salah, prisoners who committed no crime other than to be born mentally retarded, peer out from behind the bars of their cell on the roof of their family home in Hai Nazzal. Full story in the Jordan Times tomorrow.

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# Winter Olympics results

LAKE PLACID, Feb. 22 (R) — A highly-charged ice hockey clash between the Soviet Union and the U.S. and a wide open men's slalom ski race will keep the Winter Olympics tacking along today. The fresh-faced young Americans are certain to make up in enthusiasm what they lack in experience and are sure to be boosted by noisy support from fans. And they will need every advantage they can get against the Russians at the start of the two-day final play-off series.

There is little realistic prospect of the U.S. — or Sweden and Finland who play in the other game — stopping the Soviet Union rolling on to their sixth gold since they made their Olympic ice hockey debut in 1956. The Russians are just too good. Even the partisan American fans think so. Despite the resentment over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, spectators here have willingly acknowledged the talent of the Russian hockey team — albeit with subdued applause.

Meanwhile, though the slalom on Whiteface Mountain, the last men's alpine ski event, will feature newly-crowned giant slalom champion Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden, it is likely to be the most open event on the programme. Stenmark will undoubtedly be more relaxed than in the giant slalom, but his slalom form has not been nearly so devastating. He has won only two out of five World Cup events this year, and will face another substantial threat from Liechtenstein's Andreas Wenzel — who took the giant slalom silver medal behind the Swede.

Wenzel has an extra incentive to succeed, having watched his sister Hanni win Liechtenstein's gold Olympic alpine ski title in the women's giant slalom yesterday. But there could also be a first title for Eastern Europe in an alpine event, if Bojan Krizaj of Yugoslavia can inject a little more boldness into his skiing. Krizaj, who has beaten Stenmark once this season, missed the giant slalom bronze by only 0.02 seconds because he was too cautious.

The biathlon schedule winds up with the relay, in which the East German world champions will seek to end Russian dominion of the event in the Olympics. The Soviet Union have won all three biathlon relays since the sport was included in the Winter Games for the first time in 1968. At the moment the Russians and the East Germans are level at four Nordic golds each in Lake Placid, though the defending champions could have trouble holding on to

their title today.

Eric Heiden swept to his fourth speed skating gold medal of the 1980 Winter Olympics yesterday, smashing another record with a winning time of 1 minute, 55.44 seconds in the 1,500-metre race. Norwegians took both the silver and bronze medals with Kai Arne Stenseth and Terje Andersen finishing 2-3. Heiden thus became the first man in history to win four gold medals in a single Winter Olympics. The powerful 21-year-old skater has one more race in these games, skating in Saturday's 10,000-metre event in a bid to complete a five gold medal sweep.

Tiny Liechtenstein claimed its first Winter Olympic gold medal even when Hanni Wenzel won the women's giant slalom in a combined time of 2:44.66. Irene Epple of West Germany won the silver and the bronze went to Perrine Pelen of France. It was the third medal of these games for Liechtenstein.

In the women's 4 x 5 kilometre cross country relay race, East Germany captured the gold medal. The silver going to the Soviet Union and Norway winning the bronze.

Here are the country-by-country Olympic medal standings at the twenty-third Winter Olympics after the day events yesterday.

NATION	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Soviet Union	8	5	5	18
East Germany	7	5	6	18
Norway	1	3	5	9
United States	4	2	1	7
Austria	3	1	2	6
Finland	0	4	1	5
Netherlands	1	1	1	3
Liechtenstein	1	2	0	3
Sweden	2	0	0	2
Switzerland	1	0	1	2
Italy	0	2	0	2
Canada	0	1	1	2
W. Germany	0	1	1	2
Hungary	0	1	0	1
Japan	0	1	0	1
Czechoslovakia	0	0	1	1
France	0	0	1	1



Phoenix guard scores 49 points

Australia all out at 233

NEW YORK, Feb. 22 (AP) — The secret in basketball is to hit the open man and last night that turned out to be Paul Westphal. "It just happened that I was the guy open in the first half," the veteran guard said after scoring a career-high 49 points — 30 in the first two periods — and leading the Phoenix Suns to a 125-116 National Basketball Association victory over the Detroit Pistons. Westphal poured in 14 points in the first quarter and 16 more in the second, although the Suns weren't able to pull away until the final quarter. The game was tied 11 times in the third period and three more in the fourth until Phoenix hit three consecutive field goals, two by Walter Davis, to take a 111-105 lead and extend Detroit's losing streak to 11 games. Davis added 28 points was led by John Long's 23.

In other games: Clippers 104, 76ers 99. Lloyd Free led a balanced attack with 24 points and Bill Walton added 16 in his first start of the year as the Clippers snapped a four-game losing streak. Walton grabbed 11 rebounds and scored two key baskets in the final minutes. Philadelphia's Julius Erving led all scorers with 28 points.

Bullets 118, Cavaliers 115. Kevin Porter sank two free throws with seven seconds remaining to preserve the Bullets' come-from-behind victory. Porter directed the Bullets' attack throughout the tight fourth quarter and finished with 12 points and six assists. Elvin Hayes led Washington with 32 points and Greg Ballard added 26. Randy Smith had 24 points and Mike Mitchell 22 for the Cavaliers, who have lost 28 of 33 road games.

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Feb. 22 (AP) — Australia were all out at 223, five minutes before the close of the first day's play of a first three-day zonal match here against Pakistan President's XI.

Rodney Marsh was the highest scorer with 52, while Craig Yallop and Julian Weiner scored 46 runs each. Alan Border was the third highest scorer at 35.

The home team captain Aftab Baloch won the toss and sent the visitors to bat, because the wicket still remained wet and drizzle the whole day yesterday. Bruce Laird and Julian Weiner were the opening pair of Australia. The first wicket to fall was Laird (9) when the total was only 18. By lunch, the visitors had three wickets of Laird (9), Border (35), and Kim Hughes (5), a total of 112 runs only. Between lunch and tea, the Aussies took two more wickets of Julian Weiner (46) and David Hookes when the total stood at 170. Between the tea and close of the first day they lost all the remaining five wickets and scored 223 runs.

Ireland undecided on Moscow Games

DUBLIN, Feb. 22 (R) — Ireland will take part in the Moscow Olympics if the games are "meaningful". Foreign Minister Lenihan told parliament yesterday. "There is no point going to Moscow if half of the world does not attend," he told opposition deputies. Mr. Lenihan said that Ireland was reserving its position to await developments in Afghanistan.

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## Carrington dares Moscow to neutralise Afghanistan

LONDON, Feb. 22 (Agencies) — British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington today challenged Moscow to accept as a basis for negotiation his proposal to make Afghanistan neutral in exchange for a withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Lord Carrington, in a prepared speech to the Royal Institute of International Affairs, said his proposal was "the most hopeful way of repairing the damage caused by the Russian invasion."

He added: "For weeks the Russians have been saying that they would withdraw from Afghanistan once the reasons for their incursion no longer existed. The reasons they gave were alleged interference by others. So the idea of a neutral Afghanistan should meet the basic Soviet requirements. We hope that the Russians will accept it as a basis for negotiation."

Lord Carrington's proposal received the backing of the eight other Common Market foreign ministers at a meeting in Rome last Tuesday.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, in talks with Lord Carrington here last night, generally supported the suggestion.

The Soviet government has so far made no formal comment.

Lord Carrington said details of his proposal had to be worked out in consultation with the Common Market partners and other interested parties in the Afghanistan region and beyond.

"We are not yet ready to come to conclusions about the final shape of the proposal, or about the best way in which it might be negotiated," he said.

He referred to a statement by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on February 18 saying there was no inter-governmental

dispute or major international problem on which Moscow would not be ready for negotiations on an equal basis.

"This is encouraging," Lord Carrington said.

He said the West could not accept Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's doctrine that the frontiers of "socialism" could only advance and never retreat.

He referred to the Atlantic Alliance as the "bedrock of Europe's security" and declared: "When the chips are down, we are all firmly on the side of the only superpower we have."

Lord Carrington today explained his neutrality proposal to Australian Foreign Minister Andrew Peacock at a one-hour meeting, British officials said.

Mr. Peacock is on his way to Washington to attend a ministerial meeting there next week of the defence alliance of Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Lord Carrington wants an

arrangement which would allow "a neutral Afghanistan to be removed from East-West competition" and the country's neutrality guaranteed by international agreements.

In his policy speech Lord Carrington said the West wanted to help Middle East and South West Asian countries help themselves.

"This means economic aid and some military assistance for Pakistan. It means helping to improve understanding between Pakistan and India."

"It means encouraging the countries of the Arabian Peninsula to cooperate both with the West and with one another to combat subversion, and if necessary to withstand military assault as well."

"It means doing what we can towards a settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute, which many of the countries in the region see as their main priority for very understandable reasons."

## Tito on dialysis machine

BELGRADE, Feb. 22 (R) — President Tito's doctors said today that a machine has successfully taken over the functions of his weakened kidneys, a method that could keep him alive for a long time.

But officials said there was still no hope he would recover after a critical illness that has brought him close to death several times in the last seven weeks.

A medical bulletin confirmed earlier unofficial reports that the 87-year-old Communist leader's bloodstream was being periodically cleaned by a dialysis support system because of a breakdown in his kidney functions.

The machine, attached to his arm, is being used at intervals to pump out impurities from his blood, medical sources said, and it was theoretically possible for this to be done for a considerable time without putting undue strain on his heart.

Medical sources said that with dialysis he could probably live for months in a weakened condition, provided his heart held out. But they thought it highly unlikely he would recover sufficiently to be able to leave hospital. His heart is regarded as generally sound and robust for a man of his age, the sources said.

## American prostitutes, criminals sterilised to eliminate 'misfits'

RICHMOND, Virginia, Feb. 22 (AP) — Prostitutes and petty criminals reportedly were among thousands sterilised at this state's hospitals over a 50-year period in a programme to eliminate "misfits" from society.

The extent of the programme, which ended in 1972, was discovered during a search of records at Lynchburg training school and hospital, one of Virginia's mental hospitals, the Richmond Times-Dispatch said in today's editions.

During that period, more than 4,000 men, women and children were sterilised at the Lynchburg institution alone. Many of those were told only that the operation was to correct medical problems, the newspaper said.

The law authorising such surgery at the discretion of hospital directors was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. The law allows sterilisation if a hospital director thinks a patient is "afflicted with any hereditary form of mental illness...or retardation" and the operation is "in the best interest of such patient and society."

Dr. K. Ray Nelson, director of the Lynchburg hospital, said at the facility there was a regular sterilisation scheduled for many years — males on

Tuesday and females on Thursday. Dr. Nelson said he uncovered the extent of the programme during his research on the law that allowed it. He went through his facility's records to find out how many had been sterilised there.

A 67-year-old woman learned last year that the "appendectomy" she had at 16 was really an operation to cut her fallopian tubes.

The programme was aimed at the mentally retarded but a review of the records suggests prostitutes, petty criminals and maladjusted criminals were included, the Times-Dispatch said.

Just how many thousands of mental hospital patients in Virginia were sterilised may never be known. An inkling of the size of the programme is in a 1951 report in the American Journal of Mental Deficiency which said 5,931 patients in the state had been sterilised between 1924 and 1951. The births of an estimated 1,800 "feeble-minded" people had been averted, it said.

Dr. Nelson called the programme "a tragedy," but noted those who carried it out "believed they were doing good. They were just badly misinformed."

## Court says Baader-Meinhof member should now go free

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Feb. 22 (R) — Astrid Proll, who dropped out of West Germany's Baader-Meinhof urban guerrilla movement and lived as a London car mechanic until police caught up with her, should now go free, her trial judge recommended today.

The presiding judge, Johanna Dierks, sentenced Miss Proll to five-and-a-half years in jail for bank robberies committed a decade ago. But Miss Proll has already been in jail for nearly four years and the judge said she would recommend that the remainder of the sentence be suspended.

The judge said she regretted that Miss Proll, 32, had not made a clear statement disassociating herself from the Baader-Meinhof gang. "We cannot establish firmly that she has renounced the aims of this group, but we are convinced that she will no longer follow them," the judge said.

The judge's recommendation made it almost certain that Miss Proll will go free. The final decision will be made at a later sitting of the court.

Miss Proll escaped from West Germany in 1974, fled to Britain, married a London plumber and worked in a garage teaching apprentice car mechanics. Arrested in September 1978, she claimed British citizenship, but dropped her fight

against extradition after West Germany's interior minister, Gerhart Baum, said that urban guerrillas who renounced their former lives could expect mild sentences.

Two serious charges against her have been dropped. She was originally accused of building up a terrorist organisation and of attempting to murder two policemen in a gunfight in a Frankfurt street in 1971.

Judge Dierks complained today that the interior minister's public statements about leniency had put the court under pressure, and said government officials had hampered the trial. The judge said the West Berlin government had refused permission for an official who claimed Miss Proll had shot at him to appear and give evidence.

Miss Proll was formally acquitted of the attempted murder charge today. Prosecutors said last month they were dropping it for lack of evidence. The accusation of building up a terrorist organisation was dropped last year.

In addition to the five-and-a-half-year sentence for bank robbery, Miss Proll was today fined 4,500 marks (\$2,600) for falsifying identity documents.

## Netherlands political crisis fades

THE HAGUE, Feb. 22 (R) — Dutch Finance Minister Frans Andriessen said today he tendered his resignation earlier this week because he could not compromise on the crucial issue of public spending cuts.

His letter of resignation, which is still to be accepted by Queen Juliana, caused a political crisis which faded early today when the two coalition government parties made clear during a parliamentary debate that the cabinet had no intention of stepping down.

Mr. Andriessen told a news conference today he would not change his mind about his resignation and said he expected Queen Juliana to accept it.

He said today the government's package of spending cuts contained many measures which would have only a brief effect.

About half the proposed cuts of three billion guilders (\$1.56 billion) for 1980 involved only temporary measures aimed at holding down this year's budget, he said.

He added that cuts of up to four billion guilders (\$2.8 billion) were necessary to trim the deficit and

that the government should have taken more measures which would have helped through 1981 and later to promote employment and curb inflation.

He added that the cabinet's measures were not clear enough and had not adequately tackled the economic problems arising from higher oil prices and stagnating world trade.

"We are at a crossroads and need consistent policy for several years in advance. The government's policy as outlined yesterday is not good," he said.

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## Professor claims to mix water with petrol for efficient fuel

TOKYO, Feb. 22 (AP) — A Japanese university professor claims he can mix water with petrol and maintain the petrol's original fuel efficiency.

Dr. Hiromu Fushimi, an oil specialist at Tokyo's Waseda University, said he uses a chemical substance to mix petrol and water.

with a water ratio of 30 per cent, and obtains a liquid with the fuel efficiency of pure petrol.

In a recent experiment, the professors said, a car fueled by petrol-and-water ran at 20 kilometres an hour in the campus compound. The car's 200 c.c. engine did not cough, he said.

Financial problems have prevented the professor from testing his energy-saving fuel on regular sized car engines, but Dr. Fushimi said he believes a similar mixture can be applied to cars. He said he understood that U.S. scientists have succeeded in watering down petrol by 20 per cent.

Dr. Fushimi said his chemical medium—a non-ionic surface agent with hydrophilic-lipophile balance at a low 4.3—can keep the milky mixture emulsified for as long as an hour. He has developed a small pump that can be installed in a car to continuously mix petrol and water.

"This makes it possible to mix them together just before being pumped into the engine chamber," he explained.

He said fuel efficiency tests show the emulsified petrol generates 10,232 calories per gram, only slightly lower than regular octane petrol at 10,933 calories per gram.

As for pollution, Dr. Fushimi claims the watered-down petrol scores slightly better than regular petrol in hydrocarbon emission and matches regular petrol in carbon monoxide emission.

The Japanese professor says colleagues from East Germany, the Philippines, Singapore, Bulgaria, Portugal and Taiwan have written him for details on his research.

## Soviet population swells to 264.5m

MOSCOW, Feb. 22 (AP) — The Soviet population has swelled to 264.5 million, of whom a decreasing proportion are Russians, the Soviet news agency Tass reported today. The Soviet population has swelled by 22.8 million over the past decade, and by 55.7 million over the past 20 years. Tass said there were 137.3 million Russians, or 51.9 per cent of the total, compared to 54.6 per cent in 1960.

## UAE's Oteiba: Soviets trying to lay hands on Gulf oilfields

TOKYO, Feb. 22 (R) — The oil minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has accused the Soviet Union of trying to lay hands on oil fields in the Middle East following its military intervention in Afghanistan, the Japanese news agency Kyodo reported.

The report from Abu Dhabi quoted OPEC President Manaf Al Oteiba, who is also the United Arab Emirates oil minister, as condemning the Soviet action in Afghanistan when he spoke to Japanese reporters accompanying Japanese special envoy Sunao Sonoda earlier this week. Kyodo quoted the minister as saying: "This is not the end of an event but the beginning. If (the Soviet action) has caused direct impact on the Gulf states."

The agency further quoted Mr. Oteiba as saying that "the Gulf states should first endeavour to defend themselves. But if the Soviets should come, we would ask our friends for help." He warned the superpowers "to get their hands off this sensitive area and not to bring about problems in our area," Kyodo said.

## Can Soviet oil output meet its needs

Soviet oil output may be levelling off but not all western oil industry and strategic analysts agree with the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) that the 1980s will see Moscow seeking Middle east or other foreign supplies.

Analysts like Colonel Jonathan Orford of the London-based Institute of Strategic Studies does, however, believe it likely that Soviet oil exports will decline and that its customers in Eastern Europe will need to buy more oil for foreign exchange in world markets.

The Soviet Union itself vigorously denounces the CIA suggestion as propaganda designed, Tass news agency said, to console petrol hungry Americans.

Moscow radio quoted Soviet energy expert Mikhail Stryukovich as saying that the world's biggest producer of oil and coal "will not suffer from any shortage of mineral fuel in the foreseeable future."

Soviet oil output, however, during 1979 totalled 586 million tonnes, seven million tonnes below its planned target.

Last month another leading Soviet expert, Alex. Alex. Krylov of the Academy of Sciences, said production would soon begin to decline unless the present system of drilling and exploiting deposits is changed.

Mr. Krylov said in a magazine article that drilling was being concentrated in established West Siberian fields where wide use was made of water injection techniques, whereby water is pumped down into failing oil deposits to enhance recovery.

Mr. Krylov said planners should ensure that rigs were moved out to drill, instead, in potential new fields. Analysts do not doubt that the Soviet Union has huge petroleum reserves but stress that it will require investment, skill and imported technology to achieve rapid development.

A Swedish study group, Petrosud, estimates Soviet oil reserves at 150 billion barrels, just a little under Saudi Arabia's. The CIA puts the figure at between 30 and 35 billion barrels.

But oil industry sources said the issue was not how big the reserves were but how soon the Soviet Union could boost production outside declining West Siberian fields.

They said this, together with Soviet plans to use other energy sources and to conserve fuel in industry, was more relevant to judging the CIA prediction that by 1985 the USSR would be importing more than two million barrels of oil a day—equivalent to 6.6 per cent of current output by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Thornton Bradshaw, president of the Atlantic Richfield oil company, said in London this month he hoped that difficulties resulting from the Afghan crisis would be resolved so that U.S. oil technology would be exported freely to the Soviet Union.

An oil-importing Soviet Union would be "a very large problem. They will get it one way or another and I would rather they get it in Siberia than in Iran," he said.

But Marshall Goldman, of the Russian Research Centre of Harvard University, told Science magazine recently that the expected Soviet Union would deal with any oil shortfall by imposing conservation measures and substituting other forms of energy, notably gas which it has in abundance.

Tony Mackintosh, partner and oil analyst of London brokers Wood MacKenzie, took a similar line. "They will adjust their economy," he said. "I do not think they will become a net importer."

He said the CIA was concentrating on the supply side but in a planned economy, like the Soviet Union, it was easier to deal with demand.

Lawrence Brainard, senior economist of the Bankers Trust, who has been in Moscow during the past 12 months, said: "We are looking for a decline in exports but do not look for the USSR to become a net oil importer."

But he said that, in the long term, the Soviet Union would need to find capital to develop its

nuclear energy programme its coal industry and remote Siberian and offshore deposits "at a time when it pressures for both guns and

A West European studying Soviet data told it seemed quite possible USSR would import some probably later than the 1980s predicted by the CIA.

The diplomat said "the obvious difficulties getting oil out of the ground in Europe, to which the USSR exports 80 million tonnes has been told that surplus of 1979 levels must for in hard currency at prices, not at preferential

The sources said the USSR was making major investments to develop solar energy in Asia, was extracting 75 tonnes of oil a year (1.5 barrels a day) from Esso shale and was planning to get skilled personnel to a third of European Russia, from nuclear fuel

"with no anti-nuclear lobby."

But Soviet technologists obtaining oil in difficult was limited—it depended West, chiefly West German steel pipes—and it found it to get skilled personnel to Siberia, the source said Soviet Union also had an ical commitment to lo domestic heating in its

But he said that, in the long term, the Soviet Union would need to find capital to develop its

## Pol Pot cadres at Thai camp force refugees to return

SA KAEW, Thailand, Feb. 22 (AP) — Some Kampuchean this Thai refugee camp are smuggling out pleas for help, claiming that Pol Pot strongmen who live among them are trying force them to return against their will to fight in Kampuchea.

One refugee, interviewed in his thatched hut inside the camp, said a small number of leaders from the fallen Kampuchean government of former premier Pol Pot have instilled in the camp the same spirit of fear with which they ran their country.

He said they are preventing refugees from registering with the International Red Cross for potential resettlement abroad.

The office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, which oversees Thailand's refugee camps, said this week it is concerned over reports of such complaints and is bringing the matter to the attention of Thai government officials, who are in charge of security at the camps.

One smuggled message to a western embassy, signed "victim in the refugee camp," said killers backing Pol Pot "are forcing innocent people to return against their will."

It asked: "Does the International Red Cross plan to send Kampuchean refugees back to Kampuchea so that the Pol Pot regime can implement secret plans to kill more innocent people?"

The 25,000 people in Sa Kaew lived under the control of Pol Pot's guerrillas in Kampuchea and crossed into Thailand last October on their orders and under the supervision.

As western aid workers brought Sa Kaew's hunger and disease under control, the Pol Pot cadres among the refugees quietly resumed their own influence in the camp, setting up an internal command structure and handling distribution of western-donated supplies.

"The food control gives the tremendous leverage," a western relief worker said. "They tell people the Red Cross gives rice to Kampuchean only because of Pol Pot. They say, 'you are eating Pol Pot's rice, nobody else' said the anonymous refugee letter writer."

The refugee in the thatched hut, a former French teacher who asked that his name not be revealed, said the Pol Pot men also enforce their power by saying that all who do not obey them will be killed when they return to Kampuchea.

"It's just like in the old days under Pol Pot," he said. "People listen in, especially at night."

He said the camp is divided into 11 sections, each of which has 15 or 20 smaller divisions, and that

Pol Pot men control each of units as well as each individual of huts and each group of rows.

The cadres are under the control of a man named Lin, he said. "They have a project to return men to Kampuchea, Mr. Lin all men and able-bodied will have to go to Kampuchea fight."

Sa Kaew, like the three "holding centres" for puechans in Thailand, is considered to be only temporary Thai authorities, while not to force anyone to against his will, hope even move most of the population to Kampuchea.

If the Pol Pot men who resent the Sa Kaew refugee Thai authorities that all in return, and intimidate other ple from raising an objection relief workers fear numbers of refugees are returned unwillingly.

"If there is evidence that are being forced back again, this is something we know about," one relief said.

"The UNHCR is concerned over reports of this nature are bringing it up to the Th government to make an investigation," a spokesman said.

One month ago, about ethnic Chinese and other puechans not under direct control were transferred to camps to prevent friction in Kaew.

Japanese assistance on Everest to solve big ridge

TOKYO, Feb. 22 (R) — A ese assault on Mount which could solve one greatest riddles in climbing began today as a 30-advance party left to pn base camp in Tibet.

The expedition will be for a body and a camera a Chinese climber near the of the 8,848-metre pe October. Both could prov to the fate of a 1924 attempt to climb the work est mountain.

It has never been whether British climbers Leigh Mallory and Andrei reached the top before their deaths in June that.

The expedition's finding pre-date the first conquest mountain, now credited Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and sherpa Tensing Nor almost 30 years.

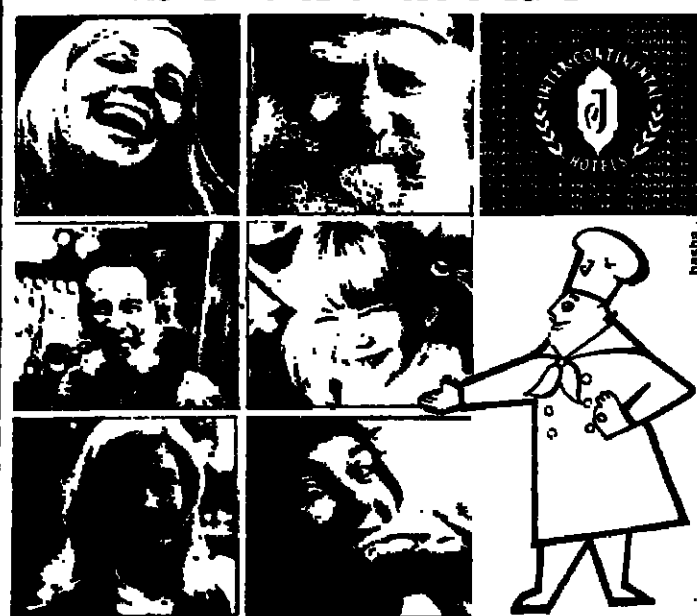
The Japanese team, t foreign expedition to atact from the Tibetan side Communist takeover in C years ago, will be led by Watanabe, 65, vice-pres of the Japan Alpine Club.

The 39-member team into two groups in an e climb the mountain by w northeast ridge and the quered north wall. The party flew to Peking i route to Tibet to prepare climb between late April, May.

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